

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is being made upon entry of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/014579 into the U.S. National Phase of prosecution. Claims 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 17 have been amended in order to comply with current U.S. patent prosecution practice. Accordingly, claims 1-18 remain pending in this application.

An Abstract on a separate sheet is attached as required under 37 CFR 1.72(b).

Entry of this amendment into the record, favorable consideration of claims 1-18 and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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